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The State of the Association

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

In the May issue of this BULLETIN the composition of the Council of the Association and the names of its present members were given in detail. Of the 258 present members, 52 were elected by the Council of the Association and 206 by the affiliated scientific societies and academies of science. Under the existing Constitution, as well as under the new one now being considered for adoption, the Council is the supreme governing body of the Association.

The Bylaws of the Association provide that "the Council shall ordinarily meet on the afternoon of the first day of the meeting [of the Association]. It may also meet at such other times as may be decided." At annual meetings of the Association the Council has held a session, usually on the next to the last day, for the election of officers, and other sessions as they may have been required for the transaction of unfinished business. The Council has held sessions also at summer meetings of the Association, but it has never held a session except at a meeting of the Association. The cost in time and money of an interim meeting of the Council of 258 members would obviously be prohibitive.

Election by Mail Vote of the Council

In the past five or six years the influence of the Council in the affairs of the Association has been greatly increased by the introduction of voting by mail. The first step was to secure nominations from the Council for president of the Association by a mail ballot sent out from the Office of the Permanent Secretary in August

of each year. The results of these mail ballots were placed before the Council at its session for electing officers of the Association.

The next step in broadening the base of responsibility for the activities of the Association was in sending to the entire membership on October 1 a preference ballot for president containing the first 20 names in order of number of votes received on the nominating ballot by the Council, but advising the members that they might vote for any Fellow of the Association. This innovation has been so satisfactory that it might well receive formal adoption in the Constitution or Bylaws.

In 1942 conditions were such that no meeting of the Association or of the Council could be held. At this time it was decided to elect officers of the Association by mail ballot of the Council sent out from the Office of the Permanent Secretary in November, the elected officers to take office in January, as heretofore. The results of the nominating ballot of the Council and also of the preference ballot of the entire membership of the Association were transmitted to the members of the Council for their information. The election of officers by mail ballot of the Council, two or three ballots being required each year, has proved to be so satisfactory that it will probably be continued after meetings of the Association and of the Council can be held again. In each of the three elections of officers by mail ballot so far held the vote of the Council has paralleled remarkably closely the vote of the entire membership.

Other Possible Uses of Mail Ballots

From time to time matters of wide general interest to scientists may arise that require united and prompt action. On such questions of interest to all scientists a mail vote of the Council of the Association might well be taken as the best, and in fact the only, way that all of organized science can express itself unitedly in this country. In a sense the Council of the Association, by virtue of its composition, on these general questions represents not only the Asso-

ciation but the interests of its affiliated societies.

Two years ago the Council of the Association took just such a vote as is under discussion. The first Kilgore Bill was before Congress. It had been much discussed in *Science* and other publications. The Executive Committee of the Council analyzed it and made a recommendation to the Council for its consideration. A mail vote of the Council was taken and the result was transmitted to the Committees of Congress before which hearings of the Bill were being held.

It is highly probable that many questions will arise on which mail ballots of the Council will be desirable. For example, the question of deferment of young scientists from military service in order to complete their scientific training is acutely before scientists in every field today. There is also the question of science in education in the future, and the extent to which the Government should aid or direct or control science. Obviously such questions are quite different from that of electing officers of the Association. These general questions require study by committees and reports for the consideration of the Council. The Executive Committee of the Council is such a committee provided for in the Constitution. The Constitution authorizes the appointment of other committees by the Council, and many special committees have been appointed.

The Executive Committee

In 1919 a subcommittee of the Council consisting of Drs. J. McKeen Cattell, H. L. Fairchild, and D. T. MacDougal reported a revised constitution for the Association which was adopted at the St. Louis meeting in December of that year. One of its new provisions was the establishment of "an Executive Committee of the Council, consisting of the President, the Permanent Secretary, the General Secretary, and eight members elected by the Council, two annually for a term of four years, who shall be *ex officio* members of the Council." That provision of the Constitution is still in effect.

An executive committee or the equivalent becomes necessary for proper control and functioning of an organization or business when its activities become extensive and require frequent decisions of importance. Until the course of the war made it impossible to hold scientific meetings the Executive Committee met not only during the meetings of the Association but also in April and October. Now that the Association's receipts and expenditures are approximately \$250,000 a year the necessity for such an interim governing body is evident. It is clear, however,

that it should have a considerable degree of continuity without long continuous tenure of any individual or group of individuals.

As has been stated, the Executive Committee consists of three *ex officio* members and eight elected members. The President of the Association is elected for a term of one year while the Permanent Secretary and the General Secretary are elected for terms of four years. Consequently of the eleven members of the Executive Committee at least three are elected each year, one by virtue of being elected an officer, and five on years in which the two administrative officers are elected.

In the past there have been several instances in which one individual was an *ex officio* member of the Executive Committee or its equivalent for many years. Dr. Joseph Lovering was Permanent Secretary and *ex officio* member of the "Standing Committee" for 19 years; Dr. F. W. Putnam, his successor, held the same offices 26 years; L. O. Howard held the same office 22 years, from 1898 to 1920; his successor, Dr. Burton E. Livingston was *ex officio* member of the Executive Committee while Permanent Secretary from 1920 to 1930, and while General Secretary from 1931 to 1934, inclusive. Since that time he has served 11 years as an elected member of the Executive Committee. Dr. Henry B. Ward was a member of the Executive Committee for the 21 years from 1920 to 1940, four years of which he was an *ex officio* member while he was Permanent Secretary (1933-1936). Dr. Otis W. Caldwell, General Secretary, has been an *ex officio* member of the Executive Committee for 11 years. However, Dr. J. McKeen Cattell's membership on the Executive Committee and its earlier equivalents exceeded by far every other term of service as an officer of the Association, extending, as it did, over a period of 43 years beginning in 1901 and terminating with his death in 1944. He was elected "permanent chairman" in 1925 and continued until 1941, when he resigned his chairmanship, but he remained a member of the Committee, having been elected a member of the Council in 1942 for a four-year term.

Only one person elected to membership on the Executive Committee since 1930 has served as long as ten years. Those not already mentioned who have been elected members of the Executive Committee since 1930 and who have served more than four years are the following: K. T. Compton (10 yrs., one *ex officio* as president), Edwin G. Conklin (7 yrs., one *ex officio* as president), J. H. Hildebrand (6 yrs.), D. R. Curtiss (6 yrs.), Roger Adams (6 yrs.), George D. Birkhoff (5

yrs., one *ex officio* as president), Walter B. Cannon (5 yrs., one *ex officio* as president), and E. R. Long (5 yrs.). In the same interval five members of the Executive Committee served terms of four years and nine have served shorter periods.

The revised Constitution presented at the Cleveland meeting of the Association last September provided that in any year not more than one member of the Executive Committee completing a term of four years can be reelected. Under this proposal a man elected president, and therefore becoming an *ex officio* member of the Executive Committee, could be elected for a regular four-year term at the close of his term as president. That is what happened in four of the eight cases of terms of more than four years listed above. Another provision of the revised constitution submitted for consideration at Cleveland was that the presidency shall involve three years as an officer of the Association, the first as president elect, the second as president, and the third as retiring president, during which he would be an *ex officio* member of the Executive Committee. If this provision of the revised Constitution is adopted there will be thirteen members of the Executive Committee, and very rarely will a person, except possibly a president, serve more than four consecutive years. That is, the proposal is designed to secure continuity in the Executive Committee as a body without long tenures of individuals.—F.R.M.

Aid to Libraries in War Areas

From time to time requests have been received at the office of the Association for information respecting how scientific journals and books may be made available to libraries and individuals in war devastated countries. The following statement from the American Library Association gives full information about what has been done to extend such aid to those who have suffered losses of libraries during the war and how the individual can assist in this important work.

Up to the end of 1944, \$222,483.84 had been spent for subscriptions to 359 scholarly and scientific journals, to be stored in this country, for distribution after the war to libraries in war areas. The money is provided by grants from the Rockefeller Foundation, which has allotted from \$50,000 to \$70,000 annually for this purpose, since 1941. The fund is administered by the Committee on Aid to Libraries in War Areas of the American Library Association, and inquiries should be addressed to Miss Dorothy J. Comins, Library of Congress Annex, Study 251, Washington, D. C.

Originally the committee was formed to study ways in which libraries in this country could help similar institutions abroad in their struggle with wartime conditions, and especially to find some means of preserving for later

distribution U. S. publications not available because of the war. The Rockefeller grant has enabled the committee to implement its findings.

The A.L.A., other library associations and the constituent societies of the American Council of Learned Societies have prepared lists of outstanding publications in their various fields of interest which were published in this country during 1939-44. They will be available to individuals and groups interested in the selection of books for foreign libraries.

In the case of periodicals, several factors influence orders placed for each title: the journal's foreign circulation before the war; the ratio of foreign circulation to total circulation; the number of free or exchange subscriptions; the number of copies available through gifts from subscribers in this country; and the relative importance of the journal to research.

In no case have purchases equalled more than half the number of paid institutional subscriptions in Europe and Asia discontinued because of the war. For this reason, and because no funds are available for purchasing periodicals from individuals nor for the acquisition of volumes issued before 1939, the committee has been gratified to note the efforts of governments-in-exile and other groups to maintain periodical subscriptions for important libraries in various countries.

The committee's periodical purchases are supplemented by gifts. In this way current issues and back files of important periodicals have been secured for use in restocking libraries that have been damaged or destroyed. Free storage space is difficult to obtain, however, and whenever possible donors are urged to store materials until central storage space is available. Transportation costs are paid, but material accepted for storage is limited to what seems of first importance. Gifts are being stored in a number of libraries in all parts of the country, and offers of additional storage space are always welcome.

Prospective donors are asked to report titles and dates of the journals available to the office of the committee. Shipping instructions will then be issued, indicating where and how shipment should be made. The committee has prepared three lists of desirable periodicals, which are available on request; a general list, a list of medical journals, and a list of technical periodicals.

Science by Radio

From the early days of radio the broadcasting companies have carried many science programs, among which were those of the Smithsonian Institution of Washington, the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and Science Service. In addition to such long-continued programs over extensive networks there have been many from local stations or on special occasions.

In recent years brief science broadcasts by eminent scientists have been delivered in connection with musical programs. The best known of these is Dr. Kettering's broadcasts on various aspects and applications of science on the General Motors program. The United States Rubber Company has just announced a series in connection with the New York Philharmonic Program

to be delivered on thirteen successive Sundays by scientists of the greatest distinction, such as Dr. Edwin J. Cohn, of Harvard, Dr. Philip R. White, of the Rockefeller Institute, Dr. Charles K. Leith, of the University of Wisconsin, and Dr. Robert M. Yerkes, of Yale.

There are several points of particular interest in the presentation of these programs. One is that it is evidently believed by those who sponsor them that many persons interested in science will be listening to musical programs. In this they are probably correct because scientists, particularly mathematicians, have long been reputed to have exceptional musical talents. Another reasonable inference is that the sponsors believe a large percentage of the intelligent public is interested in science. In this belief they are probably also correct, because it is almost universally well known that science has played a decisive role in the present war. All such things indicate that scientists are now entering a period of unparalleled opportunities and corresponding responsibilities.

With such prospects before scientists, the officers of the Association invite the combined wisdom of its large membership in formulating its plans for the future, and their devotion and energy in putting them into effect for the benefit of our civilization.

The Association and Amateur Scientists

Until within a century or two nearly all scientists were amateurs in the sense that science was their hobby, their leisure-time avocation, their greatest source of intellectual satisfaction, rather than their means of making a living. In this sense all the ancient scientists were amateurs, and many more recent ones as well, Darwin and Mendel, for example. Indeed, many present-day scientists who are professionals in the sense that they are paid for their scientific work are nevertheless amateurs in the sense that has been defined.

There is something particularly attractive and satisfying in the attitude of the amateur, irrespective of his ability. It represents the adventurous spirit in us, the altruistic to some extent, and it often partakes of the esthetic. The fine cooperation among amateurs in their societies is of social importance, as is illustrated by the science clubs in secondary schools. Letters received from boys and girls elected Honorary Junior Members of the Association on nomination of affiliated academies of science greatly increase our confidence in the future of both science and our society.

In an address on this subject before the British Association for the Advancement of Science in 1939, Dr. Herbert L. Hawkins said:

The mere existence of a company of people declaring their interest in matters bigger than the squabbles of the political nursery, preferring to contemplate wider problems and vistas than those of the daily headline, should be enough to ensure a nucleus of stability in the quicksands of opportunism. Science is a search after the truth; its devotees should be sure of their gospel, and declare it in a world of falsehoods: *Magna est veritas, et prevalebit.* (*Science*, vol. 50, p. 261, 1939.)

It is the avowed purpose of the Association to advance science. Naturally its work heretofore has been almost entirely on the level of professional scientists. Yet the questions arise whether it is not appropriate and whether it might not contribute greatly to the advancement of science for the Association to extend encouragement and assistance to organizations of amateur scientists. As a factual basis for answering these questions some investigations should be made and will be made provided members of the Association will cooperate in the undertaking.

In 1939, the American Philosophical Society made a survey of amateur scientific societies and clubs in metropolitan Philadelphia, within a radius of 30 miles of the city. The project was carried out under the direction of W. Stephen Thomas who reported on it in the January, 1940, issue of *The Scientific Monthly*, and in 1942 gave a more extensive account of the investigation in his book, "Amateur Scientist; Science as a Hobby," published by W. W. Norton & Co.

With the rather liberal definition of amateur societies and clubs adopted for the survey, it was found that there were 287 such organizations in metropolitan Philadelphia having a total membership of 32,000, including an undetermined number of persons who were members of more than one society or science club. About 40 of the 287 societies were organized for the study of such academic subjects as astronomy, botany, chemistry, entomology, geology, and ornithology. At the other extreme, there were such organizations as garden clubs, photography clubs, and clubs of radio amateurs, but in view of the contributions of all these fields to human happiness and welfare who can regard them without respect or approval in the home of perhaps the most versatile and gifted amateur scientist who ever lived, Benjamin Franklin?

A characteristic of modern life is specialization, even in the activities by which people earn their living, with the tendency for the public as a whole to have less and less of life in common. In the amateur science societies and clubs men

and women, and boys and girls, of the most varied antecedents and accomplishments meet on common ground and acquire mutual respect and confidence. In a detailed survey of a sample of the amateur science societies and clubs in Philadelphia it was found that persons having 77 different occupations were represented, that 91 percent were regularly employed, of whom 21 percent were engaged in such professions as law, medicine, and the ministry, 17 percent worked in offices, 15 percent were skilled artisans, 9 percent were students, and 6 percent were professional scientists.

It is hoped that a general survey of amateur scientific organizations can be carried out by the Association in at least 40 communities in the next few months. If it should be impossible to hold large scientific meetings this calendar year, such an undertaking would be particularly appropriate. In any case, the survey should be completed. The first step is to obtain a list of the societies and the names of their secretaries. For this part of the work volunteers are desired. Instructions will be sent first to volunteers in two or three cities who will assist in making preliminary experiments in connection with the Office of the Permanent Secretary to determine the simplest and best way of obtaining the desired information. Those able and willing to assist in this program are requested to write to the Permanent Secretary.

The Association Thousand Dollar Prize

The Thousand Dollar Prize of the Association was not awarded at the Cleveland meeting because much recent scientific work of great importance must remain secret for at least the duration of the war, and must, therefore, be excluded from even the programs of scientific meetings.

It is not to be inferred that the prize is awarded to the winner of any prearranged contest. Papers are not submitted in advance as contestants for high honors. The prize paper is chosen by the Committee on Prize from all the papers which are presented in person by their authors. The Committee cannot claim that it determines *the best paper* presented at a meeting for the simple reason that it is impossible to compare the importance of work in the various fields of the natural and the social sciences which may merit consideration. Instead, it chooses for the award a distinguished contribution to some field of science.

All papers appearing in the general program of an annual meeting, whether their authors are members or nonmembers of the Association, are

eligible for the prize, except presidential and vice presidential addresses and invited papers. In advance of an annual meeting the secretaries of the sections and of the affiliated societies meeting with the Association, are requested to send to the Office of the Permanent Secretary the titles of papers they regard as being of exceptional merit. These suggestions are transmitted to the Committee, but the Committee is not limited to consideration of suggested papers. On the contrary, the Committee is expected to make use of all available sources of information about important contributions to science made public at annual meetings of the Association.

The anonymous friend of the Association who for more than twenty years has provided the Thousand Dollar Prize has approved the suspension of its award during the war.

Information Program for Europe

The Office of War Information was established as a temporary war agency. Its charter extends to the end of the Pacific war. Since fighting has stopped in Europe OWI will carry on during the rest of its life an essentially informational program which will be designed in terms of services rather than of the mass distribution of propaganda. This program will naturally vary according to local and national circumstances and whether the country in question is allied, neutral, liberated, satellite, or enemy. However, it will in all places attempt to lay the foundations for future friendly cooperation between the United States and other countries.

In planning its European program, the OWI has constantly kept in mind the fact that it is a temporary agency and that there is no guarantee that, when it goes out of existence, any postwar information agency will follow it.

In the light of these circumstances, OWI has planned a program of gradual decreasing production and of increasing information services. Its aim is to reestablish as quickly as possible all the normal channels of thought between Europe and America which have been disrupted during the war and if possible to develop those channels on a scale which did not exist before the war. In doing this job, it desires to remain in the background and to encourage the European and American organizations or individuals to communicate directly with one another. It will attempt to do this in a manner that will enable the relations to carry on of their own momentum after OWI goes out of the picture.

The OWI representatives will be among the first civilians in most parts of liberated Europe. It will be possible for them to begin this process of reestablishing contacts long before any other agency or private organization can do so effectively. It feels strongly that it is important to get the process under way as quickly as possible; to communicate, as soon as it enters a country, with great numbers of individuals and groups who are interested in different phases of the United States and are desirous of getting in touch with it again. In order to carry out this program, OWI is, first of all, establishing contacts with American organizations which have had European relations before the war or are desirous of forming them when peace comes.

In each of the European outposts of OWI, it has and will have specially trained officers whose principal function will be to approach all sorts of professional, educational, and scientific organizations; to indicate to them, using wherever possible the contacts already formed in the United States, that their American counterparts are interested in beginning at once the normal exchange of information; and to begin, by helping in the transmission of letters, reprints, and sometimes other material, to put European and American groups in direct touch with one another.

It must be strongly stressed that when the OWI representative in Europe approaches a local individual or group on behalf of the American counterpart, he does do in *its* name.

The philosophy behind this entire program of reestablishing European-American contacts is simply that the very best "propaganda" is the establishment of good international working relationships. Only out of these can arise the understanding which is the foundation of sympathy and cooperation between nations.

The July Scientific Monthly

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Robert Hallowell Richards—In Memoriam

With the death of Dr. Robert H. Richards on March 27, the Association lost its oldest member, its member of longest standing, its fellow of longest standing, and its emeritus member of longest standing.

Dr. Richards was born in Gardiner, Maine, on August 26, 1844, became a member of the Association in 1873, was elected a fellow in 1875, and was elected to emeritus life membership in 1918. Consequently at his death he had lived 100 years and 7 months, had been a member of the Association for 72 years, and a fellow for nearly 70 years. He was on the staff of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology as instructor, professor, and emeritus professor from 1868 until his death, a period of 77 years.

When Dr. Richards became a member of the Association its total membership was 670. At this first meeting he attended (at Portland, Maine, in 1873), the registration was 195, and 146 papers were presented. That was the year that Maxwell's electromagnetic theory of radiation was published, only eight years after the publication of Darwin's *Origin of Species* and four years before the publication of J. Willard Gibbs's epoch-making paper "On the Equilibrium of Heterogeneous Solution."

"The Years of My Remembrance"

In the February issue of the A.A.A.S. BULLETIN the names and membership records were given of the 15 persons who had just been elected emeritus life members of the Association under the terms of the Jane M. Smith Fund. Many interesting reminiscences were recorded in the letters received in reply to the notifications of election that were sent out from the Office of the Permanent Secretary. Among them was a letter from Frederick W. Ellis, M.D., of Newton Centre, Mass., who was born on April 10, 1857. It is difficult to realize that the memory of a member of the Association reaches back clearly and sharply to scientific days which we think of as ancient.

"When I was a fifteen year old boy, I began to study the elements of physics and physiology in the school which I was then attending, and became acquainted with some of the writings of two great teachers and scientists, Huxley and Tyndall, which I found most stimulating and illuminating. It was about this time that Youmans, the half-blind scientific enthusiast, started the original *Popular Scientific Monthly*. About

the same time another memorable event occurred in the United States. A number of the leading scientists, of whom Youmans was one, invited Tyndall to visit our country to whet the appetite of its citizens for more science. Tyndall responded to the invitation and spent a part of the years 1872 and 1873 in lecturing on optics in some of our principal cities. I remember well the sensation which his lectures excited, for they were followed closely by the public press, and I avidly read the accounts. The lectures were afterwards published in book form. I still have the book which I purchased and which I still regard as probably the best elementary exposition of physical optics that was ever written. Probably the great public which thronged to Tyndall's lectures were highly entertained by his brilliant experiments, but it is likely that the greater portion of his auditors followed him with a good deal of difficulty, for they had had no training in science and were getting their first shadowy conception of what science means. The first great surge of interest in science in the United States came from Franklin, and probably the next came from the founding of the Smithsonian Institution and the leadership in that institution of our great scientist, Joseph Henry, who in many ways was the peer of Faraday. America for many years has had great scientists, but until *the years of my remembrance* our countrymen had been decidedly lacking in interest in the natural sciences."

The American Physiological Society

The American Physiological Society was organized December 30, 1887, in the Physiological Laboratory of the College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York City. The invitation to attend the meeting and participate in the organization was sent out by a committee consisting of S. Weir Mitchell of Philadelphia, H. N. Martin of Johns Hopkins, and H. P. Bowditch of Harvard. These men are therefore known as the founders of the Society.

It is stated in the minutes that the original membership consisted of 28 persons. Among the list were not only the prominent experimental physiologists, biochemists and pharmacologists of the day, but also a few clinicians who were imbued with the experimental method. Only two classes of membership have ever been recognized, honorary and ordinary. The former group has been very limited and now consists of only two foreign members, Dr. Houssay of Argentina and Dr. Sherrington of England. The ordinary members have constantly increased and now number 796.

The actual growth of the American Physiological Society has been, however, far greater than indicated

by these figures. In 1906 there was formed from its membership the American Society of Biological Chemists, and in 1908 those interested in pharmacology established the American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics. In 1913 these three societies united in solving program and other difficulties by forming the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology. This comprehensive title was meant to integrate the interests of all groups which had already come or might yet come from the parent society. Even while the Federation was being formed the fourth member of the group appeared in the new American Society for Pathology. In 1940 the American Institute of Nutrition emerged from the Federation, and in 1941 the federated group was joined by the American Association of Immunologists. All these societies, now numbering 2,503 members, may be regarded in a very real sense as the offspring of the original Physiological Society.

The annual dues of the Physiological Society, determined each year, have never exceeded two or three dollars. Election of ordinary members is on recommendation of members, approval of the Council and vote of the Society. A real interest in experimental biological science and the publication of a certain amount of research work make up the necessary qualifications.

Since its founding the Physiological Society has held one meeting annually. For many years it met frequently with the A.A.A.S., but in 1927 the time of meeting was changed to March or April. Until the attendance assumed such large proportions meetings were held in some medical center. The meetings since 1942 have been cancelled because of the war. Branch meetings are permissible under the constitution but one has never yet been held.

The officers of the Physiological Society consist of a president, a secretary, a treasurer, a council of four members, and three members of the board of publication trustees. At present the president is Dr. Philip Bard of the Johns Hopkins Medical School and the secretary is Dr. Wallace O. Fenn of the University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry.

The Society has never offered prizes or awards in the sense of medals or honors. From time to time, however, sums have been contributed to various physiological undertakings. Perhaps the most notable of these was a gift of \$5,000 in 1941 to the Royal Society of London for support of scientific publications during the war period.

In 1921 Dr. W. T. Porter of Harvard offered to establish a Research Fellowship under the supervision of the American Physiological Society with a stipend of \$1,200 a year. This has come to be known as the "Porter Fellowship" and annual appointments to it have been made to the present time. The fellowship is now supported from the profits of the Harvard Apparatus Company, which Dr. Porter has generously set aside for this purpose. The Porter Fellowship has been assigned each year to some younger physiological worker of promise. In this way some

of the best known physiological work of recent years has been fostered.

In 1937 there were also established International Fellowships, modest sums, but which were enough to enable some of the younger workers to attend the International Physiological Congresses.

The Physiological Society has been affiliated with the A.A.A.S. since 1936. It has been a member of the Union of American Biological Societies in order to give effective support to Biological Abstracts.

The Society owns two publications and is interested in a third. *The American Journal of Physiology* was founded in 1898 by Dr. W. T. Porter. For 16 years he carried the burdens of the publication alone. In 1914 he generously gave the copyright and back volumes to the Physiological Society and since then it has been owned and managed by the Society. The impetus given to experimental physiology and to all medicine by this publication cannot be exaggerated. The publication is now in its 140th volume.

In 1921 the Society established *Physiological Reviews*. It met a popular demand for authentic and exhaustive data on various physiological topics. This journal has had a continually growing subscription list and is now in its 23d volume.

In 1939 the American Physiological Society joined with Annual Reviews, Inc., in the publication of an *Annual Review of Physiology*. This has been highly successful and is now in its fifth year.

Management of these publications is vested in a Board of Publication Trustees composed of older experienced workers whose policies are carried out by a most able managing editor, Dr. D. R. Hooker. The publications now have a very substantial financial reserve, income from which is making it possible to keep up publication standards even during the present emergency.

Further than supplying the government with lists of its members who might be available for special services, the Society has not participated in the war effort in any organized way. Many of its members, however, are in the service or in charge of various committees functioning under the National Research Council. It is doubtful if there is a physiological laboratory in America today that does not have one or more war problems under study. Its members head most of the government laboratories which are devoted to investigations on the physiological aspects of aviation and chemical warfare.

The influence that the American Physiological Society has exerted upon the development of physiological science and experimental medicine has been profound. It has never deviated from its purpose of fostering experimental physiology in its broadest sense. It has become a forum in which current researchers are presented. It is the owner and manager of great journals. It is the mother of other societies. Not only has its past been honorable and productive, but it gives every indication that its value and usefulness will continue to increase as the years go by.—W. J. MEEK.

Membership in the Association

Eligibility for Membership

Membership in the Association is open to all persons engaged in scientific work, whether in the fields of the natural or the social sciences; to all amateur scientists, whatever their special interests; and to all who desire to follow the advances of science and its effects upon civilization. Members having made substantial contributions to the advancement of science are eligible for election as fellows.

Dues and Publications

Membership dues are \$5 per year, including subscriptions for the monthly A.A.A.S. BULLETIN and either the weekly journal *Science*, now in its 101st volume, or *The Scientific Monthly*, now in its 60th volume. *Science* is a journal for professional scientists; the *Monthly* is a nontechnical journal for the intelligent public. The Association also publishes technical symposia and nontechnical books on science that are available for members at prices substantially below those to the public.

Organization and Meetings

The Association was founded in 1848, with an initial membership of 461. Papers in its early programs were classified as either natural philosophy or natural history. Now its work is organized under 16 sections and 190 associated societies having a total membership of at least 500,000. Its annual meetings are the greatest regular gatherings of scientists in the world.

Nominations and Applications for Membership

Members may submit nominations for membership at any time, and persons desiring to become members can obtain membership application forms from the Office of the Permanent Secretary, the Smithsonian Institution Building, Washington 25, D. C.

Changes of Address

New addresses for the Association's record and for mailing the journals *Science* and *The Scientific Monthly*, as well as the A.A.A.S. BULLETIN, should be in the Office of the Permanent Secretary, Washington 25, D. C., at least three weeks in advance of the date when the change is to become effective.

Officers of the Association

President, Charles F. Kettering; *Permanent Secretary*, F. R. Moulton; *General Secretary*, Otis W. Caldwell; *Treasurer*, W. E. Wrather.

Executive Committee: Anton J. Carlson, *Chairman*; Roger Adams, Otis W. Caldwell, Arthur H. Compton, Charles F. Kettering, Burton E. Livingston, Kirtley F. Mather, Walter R. Miles, F. R. Moulton, Elvin C. Stakman, and W. E. Wrather.

